

Reply to office action dated 2/10/04

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Claim 6 is amended. No claims are cancelled. This amendment is believed to be fully responsive to
5 all issues raised in the 2/10/04 Office Action.

OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS

37 CFR 1.84(p)(5)

The Office objects to the Drawings as having reference signs "5b and 5c"
10 allegedly not mentioned in the Specification. Applicant respectfully directs the Office to paragraphs 39-40 ([0039]-[0040]) of the Specification which relate to, and recite, Fig. 5b, and paragraph 41 ([0041]) which relates to, and recites, Fig. 5c. Applicant requests that the associated objection be withdrawn.

15 37 CFR 1.83(a)

The Office objects to the Drawings as allegedly not showing "a long axis" as claimed. Applicant respectfully directs the Office to paragraph 46 ([0046]) of the Specification which relates to Fig. 5f and which recites in pertinent part, "the terminal region 503b can have a diameter d transverse a long axis x of the slot
20 503". Axis x is labeled in Fig. 5f. Applicant requests that the associated objection be withdrawn.

Reply to office action dated 2/10/04

OBJECTIONS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Paragraph number one [0001] is amended as requested by the Office.

Applicant requests that the associated objection be withdrawn.

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CLAIM REJECTIONS §102

Claims 6, 8-9, and 15-16 are rejected under §102 as being anticipated by US patent No. 6,132,033 to Browning et al (hereinafter "Browning").

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Claim 6 is directed to a print head and recites in pertinent part:

- a substrate extending between generally opposing first and second surfaces; and,

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- a slot received in the substrate and extending along a long axis, the slot having a central region and at least one terminal region which are arranged generally along the long axis, wherein the terminal region comprises, at least in part, a bowl-shaped portion, and wherein the bowl-shaped portion has a first perimeter measured along the first surface which is greater than a second perimeter of the bowl-shaped portion measured parallel to the first surface and

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lying between the first surface and the second surface.

Reply to office action dated 2/10/04

Claim 6 as amended recites elements not disclosed, taught or suggested by Browning. Namely, claim 6 recites "the bowl-shaped portion has a first perimeter measured along the first surface which is greater than a second perimeter of the bowl-shaped portion measured parallel to the first surface and
5 lying between the first surface and the second surface". As such claim 6 is allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that the §102 rejection of claim 6 be withdrawn.

Claims 8-9 and 15-16 depend from allowable claim 6 and are similarly allowable.

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CONCLUSION

Claims 1-21 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the present application. Should any issue remain that prevents immediate issuance of the
15 application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney to discuss the unresolved issue.

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Respectfully Submitted,
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Dated: 5/3/04


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